

RECOGNIZING MOBILE COUNTY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY JOHN
TYSON AND HIS WORK IN CRE-
ATING THE ALABAMA SECRET
SAFE PLACE PROGRAM

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mobile County District Attorney John Tyson for his leadership and support in creating the Nation's first Secret Safe Place for Newborns program in Mobile, Alabama. As Mobile's Press-Register recently editorialized, "'Saving newborns' lives is a legacy of which Mobile can be proud."

The brainchild of former WPML-TV reporter Jodi Brooks, the Alabama Secret Safe Place program was created in 1998 through the hard work and support of John Tyson. Due to his leadership, every State has established a program similar to Alabama's as an option for mothers who are unable and unprepared to provide for their newborn baby.

These programs allow mothers to turn over their newborns to a local hospital, fire station, police station, or other public entity without being charged with a crime. Within the time limit set by each State's law, the mothers are able to remain anonymous and will not be accused of child neglect. The mothers also continue to have the opportunity, if they wish to change their minds, to return and reclaim their child.

When the Secret Safe Place for Newborns program began, it was all too common for distraught mothers, in most cases teenagers, to abandon their newborns in trash cans or in public places hoping someone would discover them. Some even went so far as to murder their unwanted babies. Due in large part to John's efforts, an estimated 500 newborns across the country have been saved over the past 10 years because of infant safe haven programs.

John often serves as the spokesman for infant safe haven programs speaking to media outlets throughout the country and around the world on efforts to combat the unsafe abandonment of newborns.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in commending District Attorney John Tyson and so many others for their efforts on behalf of newborns in Alabama and across the country. The success of the Alabama Secret Safe Place for Newborns program is a tribute to their efforts to save infants' lives—they are true heroes.

GREATER HOUSTON CONCERNS OF
POLICE SURVIVORS (C.O.P.S.)

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, the Greater Houston Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) was created to help provide resources to assist surviving families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. This noble organization helps rebuild the lives of those they help, and provides training to

law enforcement agencies on survivor victimization issues. They also educate the public on ways to show support for law enforcement professions and their survivors.

The Greater Houston C.O.P.S. instituted two programs that the public can join to show support for the fallen officers and their families. Project Blue Light gets residents to place a blue light in a window of a home or business. By keeping the blue lights burning, it is a constant reminder to everyone that law enforcement officers serve and protect the public "every day, every minute, and every second of the year."

The Blue Ribbon Program encourages the public and law enforcement personnel to tie blue ribbons to their car antennas during National Police Week. C.O.P.S. hopes the blue ribbons are a reminder to the public that many law enforcement officers have already paid the ultimate price and given their lives in the line of duty. They also encourage the public to display their blue ribbons outside of National Police Week, to honor those officers who are in our communities each day, putting their lives on the line to keep the public safe.

The Greater Houston C.O.P.S. is an active chapter of the national organization of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. and continues to advocate for citizens in the Greater Houston area to support the law enforcement officers lost, still serving, and the families of these officers.

I applaud C.O.P.S. and Greater Houston C.O.P.S. for their dedication and commitment to law enforcement and their families.

Senior Police Officer Gary A. Gryder assigned to the Southeast Division, Paroled Offender's Unit, while directing traffic was struck and killed at Katy Freeway West service road at Highway 6 on Sunday, June 29, 2008. Officer Gryder was a twenty-three (23) year veteran of the Department joining on January 7, 1985, entering Police Academy Class No. 126. He is survived by his wife, Retired Senior Police Officer Debra L. Gryder, who served the Department for over twenty-seven (27) years, his son, Austin A. Gryder and a daughter, Jennifer Streeter. He is also survived by his Father-in-law, Retired Police Officer Alfred B. Lewis, who retired from the Department after serving over thirty-one (31) years, on March 2, 1981.

Madam Speaker, I attended the funeral of Officer Gryder along with hundreds of other citizens. His wife, Debbie, and his family now join the ranks of C.O.P.S. Our communities need to constantly remember our fallen police and their families that will need to continue on without their loved ones.

And that's just the way it is.

ON THE BIRTH OF MADELYN
CLAIRE KAPLAN AND AINSLEY
ELIZABETH KAPLAN

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am happy to congratulate my friend Andrew Kaplan and his wife Danleigh Kaplan of Washington on the birth of their new twin girls. Madelyn Claire Kaplan and Ainsley Elizabeth Kaplan were born on July 27, 2008,

weighing 5 pounds 2 ounces and 5 pounds 8 ounces respectively. Madelyn and Ainsley have been born into a loving home where they will be raised by parents who are devoted to their well-being and bright future.

I am so excited for this new addition to the Kaplan family. On behalf of my wife Roxanne and our entire family, we want to wish Andrew, Danleigh, Madelyn, and Ainsley all the best.

HONORING WANDA WILSON, CRNA,
PhD, MSN, PRESIDENT OF THE
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
NURSE ANESTHETISTS

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, today I pay tribute to Wanda Wilson, CRNA, PhD, MSN, of the University of Cincinnati and president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, located in my congressional district. Ms. Wilson will soon complete her year as the 2007–2008 national president of the AANA, the professional organization representing more than 39,000 Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, CRNAs, and student nurse anesthetists in the United States. She has provided strong leadership in advocating for the practice of nurse anesthesia and the patients who CRNAs serve every day.

Founded in 1931, the AANA celebrates its 77th anniversary as the professional association representing CRNAs, advanced practice nurses who administer approximately 30 million anesthetics in the U.S. every year. CRNAs practice in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered: traditional hospital surgical suites and obstetrical delivery rooms; critical access hospitals; ambulatory surgical centers; the offices of dentists, podiatrists, ophthalmologists, plastic surgeons, and pain management specialists; and U.S. military, Public Health Service, and Department of Veterans Affairs health care facilities.

CRNAs provide anesthesia for all types of surgical cases and, in some states, are the sole anesthesia providers in the vast majority of rural hospitals, affording these medical facilities obstetrical, surgical and trauma stabilization services.

A resident of Cincinnati, Ohio, Ms. Wilson earned her doctorate in nursing science and physiology, a master's degree in nursing, a bachelor's degree in nursing and a bachelor's degree in science from the University of Cincinnati. She also received her nurse anesthesia diploma from Cincinnati General Hospital and her nursing diploma from Holzer Medical Center in Gallipolis, Ohio. A longtime member of the AANA, Ms. Wilson has held numerous leadership positions and served as regional director, treasurer, vice-president, and president-elect before becoming the national president of the AANA in 2007. In addition, Ms. Wilson has served terms as president and president-elect and as a member of the board of directors for the Ohio State Association of Nurse Anesthetists.

She is also the program director at the University of Cincinnati's College of Nursing, Nurse Anesthesia Major, which has been ranked one of the top nurse anesthesia educational programs nationally by U.S. News and World Report.

Adding to her professional accomplishments, Ms. Wilson has been recognized for speaking on anesthesia-related topics over the years. She has taken her experience and knowledge from the workplace and her AANA leadership role to lecture on political and academic anesthesia-related topics for different professional groups. During her AANA presidency, Ms. Wilson has advocated for CRNAs and patients before the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, and other Federal agencies. In addition, Ms. Wilson worked to bring the AANA's perspective to the national debate on how to improve veterans health care, ensuring that AANA was represented in Congressional hearings to testify about the contributions of CRNAs in the Veterans Affairs health system and the dedication with which CRNAs provide safe anesthesia care to members of the U.S. Armed Forces at home and abroad. Finally, Ms. Wilson has been an invaluable advocate in advancing reform and equity in Medicare anesthesia reimbursement in educational settings so that seniors and persons with disabilities will have access to safe anesthesia care. Legislation recently enacted by Congress to reverse Medicare payment cuts also reformed Medicare anesthesia payment teaching rules for CRNAs and anesthesiologists, a long-standing policy objective of the AANA.

Madam Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me today in recognizing the outgoing president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Ms. Wanda Wilson, CRNA, PhD, MSN, for her notable career and outstanding achievements.

H. RES. 1288 NATIONAL CAMPUS SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, each fall, students arrive on college campuses and universities across the Nation to further their education. There is a general excitement about campus life and the opportunity to live away from home for the first time with little to no rules. However, the harsh reality soon becomes evident—that campuses are not immune from the threat of crime.

Recognizing the very real presence of crime on college campuses and universities across America, I am a cosponsor of H. Res. 1288, Supporting the goals and ideals of National Campus Safety Awareness Month. This resolution designates the month of September as the National Campus Safety Awareness Month in partnership with hundreds of colleges and universities in the Nation.

As the co-chair and founder of the Congressional Victim's Rights Caucus, I strongly believe that we need to raise awareness about crime issues present on campuses, such as sexual assault, stalking, hazing, and alcohol and drug abuse.

This resolution encourages our Nation's colleges and universities to promote campus safety and crime awareness prevention programs. I am proud to know that several colleges and universities from my home state of

Texas participated in the National Campus Safety Awareness Month last year, and my hope is that even more campuses and universities participate this year.

The facts are before us—from 2004–2006 there were 8,114 forcible-sex offenses, 8,923 aggravated assaults, and 37 homicides on college and university campuses. Although we would like to think that these higher education institutions are immune from such heinous acts of crime, sadly they are not.

I join with Rep. SESTAK in support of H. Res. 1288, the National Campus Safety Awareness Month, because although there is a lot of work to be done to make our campuses a safer place, this resolution is a step in the right direction.

TRIBUTE TO MS. LEE STURTEVANT

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Ms. Lee Sturtevant and wish her the very best upon her 85th birthday.

Over her years of service to the County of Santa Clara, Ms. Sturtevant has continually worked within the democratic process to help raise the standard of living for those who have the least.

Ms. Sturtevant has sought to get women involved in politics and to run for office. She successfully managed the 1974 campaign of Assemblywoman Leona Egeland, who was at that time the only woman serving in the Assembly. She continues to be a highly influential and informed leader within the Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee and of DAWN, Democratic Activists for Women Now.

As a high school student, she was introduced to politics and its ability to benefit society by her mother, who took her to Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee meetings. And, as a young girl, Sturtevant once dined over lunch with Eleanor Roosevelt.

Although many vibrant and youthful people of her age are enjoying retirement and relaxation, Ms. Sturtevant continues to employ her skills and dedication as a policy advisor for the office of Santa Clara County Supervisor Ken Yeager. In 1981, Lee served as my Chief of Staff when I was first elected to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. She has also worked on the staffs of other prominent Santa Clara County area elected officials.

Her career also includes working as a teacher and librarian for the Cupertino School District in addition to serving on the San Jose Unified School District Board of Education.

I would like to thank Lee Sturtevant for her service to my office and to the community of the County of Santa Clara. Best wishes upon your 85th birthday and may you celebrate many more in the years to come.

25 PINELLAS COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS HONORED WITH ANNE FRANK HUMANITARIAN AWARDS

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, the Florida Holocaust Museum in St. Petersburg, Florida, which I have the privilege to represent, has honored 25 Pinellas County High School students with the Anne Frank Humanitarian Award for their work to improve our community and our world.

These students are being recognized for their volunteer efforts in a wide variety of areas including Special Olympics, Toys for Tots, community food drives, environmental awareness campaigns, mentoring programs for the less fortunate, hurricane and disaster relief projects, supporting our troops overseas, and raising funds to support an African orphanage.

The award was established just after the attacks on our Nation that took place September 11, 2001. Irene Weiss, who is now Chairman of the Museum's Board of Directors, decided that our Nation needed to step up and honor selfless acts of kindness by young people, particularly at a time of such violence and horror. As a result, the museum has honored high school juniors from the five county Tampa area every year since 2002.

The Museum pays tribute to juniors in hope that they will become role models in their schools as seniors to let their fellow classmates know that it is never too early to become community leaders. As the award's namesake Anne Frank once said, "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."

Madam Speaker, join me in congratulating the Pinellas County students that were honored this year. They are: Zachary Northcutt, Admiral Farragut Academy; Lady Nash, Bayside High School; Heather McShane, Boca Ciega High School; Dominic Delgado, Clearwater Central Catholic High School; Leigh Jester, Clearwater High School; Danielle Rodnizki, Countryside High School; Megan Dockerty, Dixie Hollins High School; Bo Everett, Dunedin High School; Jennifer Dipietro, East Lake High School; India Welch, Gibbs High School; Caitlan Welsh, Indian Rocks Christian School; Alyssa Boddie, Keswick Christian School; Christine McLarty, Lakewood High School; Maxwell Brickel, Largo High School; Alexandrea Wert, Northeast High School; Kathryn Keller, Northside Christian School; Jacqueline Watson, Osceola High School; Danielle Simpson, Palm Harbor University High School; Alicia Griggs, Pinellas Park High School; Caitlin DeMull, Seminole High School; Helen Kline, Shorecrest Preparatory School; Mikel Bryant, St. Petersburg Catholic High School; Amanda Emery, St. Petersburg Collegiate High School; Danielle Rossbach, St. Petersburg High School; Jessica Primiani, Tarpon Springs High School.

These youth, who are our future leaders, should remind us that our Nation is in good and capable hands. It is that volunteer spirit that has allowed our country to grow and prosper and to remain free and strong. Through their leadership, these students will become